



**Metropolitan  
King County  
Councilmember  
Julia  
Patterson**



## District Thirteen

Visit My Webpage at:  
[www.metrokc.gov/mkcc](http://www.metrokc.gov/mkcc)

email:[julia.patterson@metrokc.gov](mailto:julia.patterson@metrokc.gov)

Phone: 206-296-1013

516 Third Avenue  
King County Courthouse  
Room 1200  
Seattle, WA 98104-3272



## *Dear Friends and Neighbors,*

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2001 I was elected your new Metropolitan King County Councilmember, which is the realization of a dream for me, and the result of months and months of hard work by a number of wonderful people in our community. I come from four generations of Washingtonians, and was raised on a small farm in SeaTac, the city where I have made my home, and where my husband Pat and I are raising our family.

Over a decade ago, I got involved in our community to deal with worsening crime and drug problems. I helped incorporate the city of SeaTac and served as a founding member on the City Council. From there, I went on to serve you in the State Legislature, and my commitment to continuing to serve you as your new King County Councilmember is strong.

Standing at many of your doorsteps over the last year, I got the opportunity to listen to your concerns. I have made those concerns my top priority and have begun to work on solutions to:

- Fixing the South County transportation problem;
- Improving economic conditions by encouraging private and public investments that will strengthen and revitalize our community;
- Finding ways to make our County government operate more efficiently.

One of the first issues I will tackle is improving transportation in the South County. As a member of both the Transportation Committee and the Regional Transit committee, and as a newly appointed Sound Transit Board member, I will have a strong voice in South County's transportation issues. If Washington State is successful in passing legislation to empower regions such as King County to fund local transportation projects, I will assure that South County projects are at the top of the list. I will work to improve traffic flow throughout the region and insist that 100 percent of our locally collected revenue is invested in our local projects.

In the following pages, I outline some of the other projects I will be focusing on in 2002. I hope you have the opportunity to spend a few moments reading our first District 13 community newsletter – and I look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

*Julia Patterson*

Julia Patterson



*Councilmember Julia Patterson (left) is sworn in by King County Executive Ron Sims.*

# Patterson to Chair Utilities Committee and Regional Policy Committee

With the beginning of the new Council season this January, I will Chair both the Utilities Committee and the Regional Policy Committee. I am very excited by these opportunities, as they will allow me to make a real difference in our community. I plan to focus on saving taxpayers money, protecting public health and safety, and turning wastes to resource. I also want to work on re-establishing relationships between suburban cities and the county, thereby ensuring that both levels of government are working toward the same goal.

## Utilities Committee

The Utilities Committee oversees King County's solid waste, wastewater and stormwater services. I believe it is important that we regard the regions' waste products as resources; continue our efforts to turn wastewater into reclaimed water; free up fresh water for people and salmon; convert byproducts of the landfill into a green energy source; and make it easy for citizens to recycle.

This Committee will work to improve recycling and disposal services at transfer stations that serve South County. As for stormwater services, the Committee will work to keep King County among the most highly regarded

jurisdictions in the nation for reducing hazards associated with flooding, particularly in the Green River Watershed. Protecting the water quality of our rivers, lakes and Puget Sound will also be a top priority.

## Regional Policy Committee

The Regional Policy Committee was established by King County Charter in 1994. Committee members are elected officials from the King County Council, the Suburban Cities Association, and the City of Seattle. The Regional Policy Committee develops, reviews and recommends policies for consideration before the King County Council. It is responsible for addressing countywide issues including human services, public health, disaster planning, solid waste, criminal justice and emergency medical services.

As Chair of the Regional Policy Committee I will work to improve the relationship between the county and its cities. I believe there are substantial opportunities to pool resources to help solve problems as a region and save taxpayer's money.



*Councilmember Julia Patterson and her husband Patrick are raising three children and know that what we do today impacts the lives of our children tomorrow.*

My focus for the Regional Policy Committee will be to work towards:

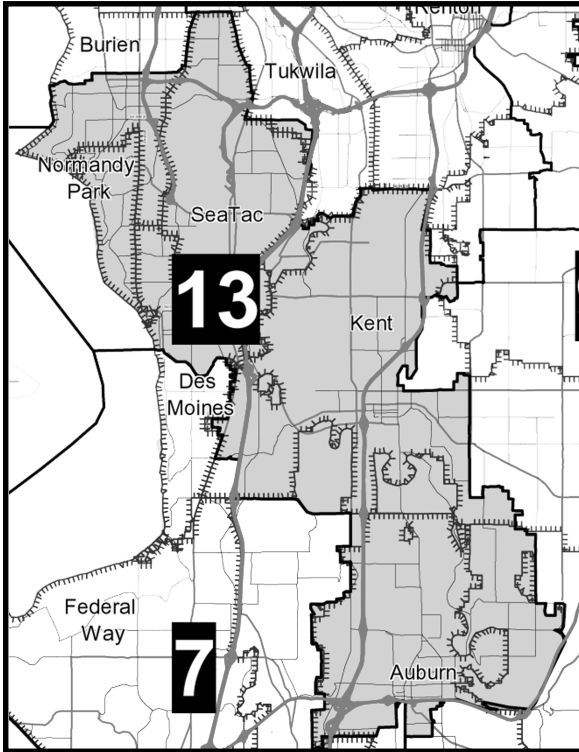
- Equal participation and input from the suburban cities, King County and the City of Seattle;
- Regional policies that result in improved service delivery and efficient government across jurisdictional lines;
- Emergency Management services that are quick, dependable and effective.

These are all issues of tremendous importance to South King County. I am committed to working closely with you, the citizens of the 13<sup>th</sup> District, and my colleagues on the committee to find solutions that work.

Committee meetings will begin in January. Please find additional information about King County Council Committees on the Council's website at: [www.metrokc.gov](http://www.metrokc.gov) or call my office at (206)296-1013.

# New Boundaries for District 13

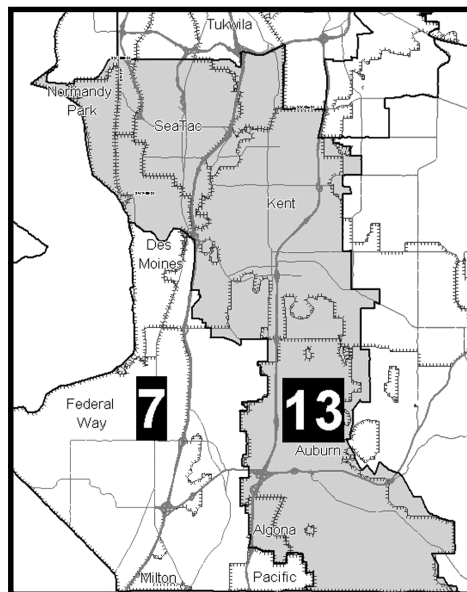
## New Council District 13 boundaries



The King County Council is legally required to redraw the lines of its thirteen districts at least every ten years to assure that every district contains a roughly equal number of residents. This year the task was undertaken by a bipartisan commission that included two Republicans and two Democrats.

## Previous District 13 boundaries

Generally, our King County Council District 13 was pushed a few miles to the north. Algona and Auburn south of Highway 18 were drawn out. But our District did pick up the Lea Hill part of Auburn, along with the rest of SeaTac and southern Burien. There are just over 138,000 residents in the new District 13.



## To contact Julia Patterson

516 Third Ave, Room 1200  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 296-1013  
Toll Free: (800) 325-6165

E-mail:  
[julia.patterson@metrokc.gov](mailto:julia.patterson@metrokc.gov)

Web: [www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/members/d13](http://www.metrokc.gov/mkcc/members/d13)

District Office:  
4800 S. 188th St., Ste. 110  
SeaTac, WA 98188  
(206) 296-0356

## King County Services and Phone Numbers (all 206 area code)

Animal Services: 296-3936

Auditor: 269-5195

Building & development: 296-6600

Vehicle Licensing: 296-4000

Employment: 296-7586

Executive Ron Sims: 296-4040

Finance Department (Taxes):  
296-3850

Housing Authority: 574-1100

King County General  
Information: 296-0100 or 800-325-6165

Metro Transit: 553-3060

Parks: 296-4232

Prosecuting Attorney: 296-9000

Records & Elections: 296-1565

Sheriff: 296-3311

Senior Services: 448-3110

Solid Waste: 296-6540





## Councilmember Julia Patterson

King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200  
Seattle, WA 98104

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# A New Process for Special Projects

Historically, the County budget has included \$100,000 in Special Projects funding for each of the thirteen councilmembers to distribute among nonprofit groups in his or her local community. Recent examples of funded programs include local food banks, the Kent Youth & Family Services, and the Des Moines and Auburn Senior Centers.

When I took office in November, the King County 2002 budget had already been passed into law. Although I did not have the opportunity to vote on the budget, I am concerned about the loss of local Special Projects funding.

This year, a bipartisan group of eight councilmembers crafted a budget that stripped the special projects funding from the five councilmembers (including my predecessor) who did not vote for the budget. The majority's rationale for this was that members of the council who were unwilling to support the tax revenue should not share in the benefits. The result was that councilmembers in Bellevue, Seattle, and Federal Way all received funding for local non-profits in their communities, while our community received *no*

discretionary special projects funding for 2002.

Up until this year, the Special Projects funds provided a valuable source of funding for local non-profit human service organizations, and ensured some equity in funding among the different parts of the County. However, this fund has also been rife with controversy, and for good reason:

- Some Councilmembers have not willingly disclosed how they spent the money.
- This process has allowed Councilmembers to reward friends and pet projects.
- There is no public procedure for applying for these funds, and no public criteria that explains how the funds will be distributed.

As I begin the first year of my term, I will attempt to secure funding for many of the very deserving local programs that were cut.

I also will continue to support open government— and reject the old way of dispersing these funds. When we begin to prepare the next annual budget, my office will conduct an open, public application process employing predetermined competitive criteria for allocating Special Projects funds. If you are involved in a nonprofit organization and would like financial assistance from the county, please feel free to contact my office for an application.

Finally, it is important to note that **these funds may not be available in the future**. With the \$41 million shortfall King County is experiencing, this may be the last year the County can afford to help non-profits. This year, the Council will be making some tough choices. I will be working with the County Executive to make County government work more efficiently— and, by doing so, hopefully reduce the impact County budget cuts have on our community.